

REMARKS CONCERNING THE AMENDMENTS'

The above amendments were repeatedly discussed in telephone communication and by exchange of e-mail correspondence between Examiner Arthur Hall and the attorney of record, Mark A. Litman on at least three separate dates, including 5 October 2009.

Additionally, in the telephone correspondence between Examiner Arthur Hall and the attorney of record, Mark A. Litman on 5 October 2009, Examiner Hall discussed the separate and distinct nature of claimed subject matter in claim 45 as compared to all remaining claims in the Application. Based upon that difference, a telephone restriction requirement was made between claim 45 (directed towards a playing card verification system/method) and all remaining claims in the application directed towards shuffling systems/methods.

In view of this restriction requirement and in response to the suggested allowance of all other pending claims in the Application based on this Amendment, Applicants elected to agree to the restriction requirement with Claim 45 as the only non-elected claim and to prosecute all other claims in the case, on agreement that the remaining claims would be allowed.

CONCLUSION

All claims are believed to be in condition for examination and allowance. All new claims find literal and/or conceptual antecedent basis in the original specification as filed. The primary objective of the Amendment was to reduce the costs of claims under new fee guidelines.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments that may be deemed necessary to Deposit Account Number 19-2140.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: Jennifer K. Farrar
Jennifer K. Farrar
Registration No. 34,775
Attorney for Applicant
Shuffle Master, Inc.
1106 Palms Airport Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89119
Telephone: 702-270-5177
Facsimile: 702-260-1146
email: jfarrar@shufflemaster.com